

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-8. (canceled)

9. (Presently amended) A method for electronically processing purchasing and sales transactions using the Internet, wherein goods and services may be ordered via at least one personal computer via an access node, and the goods and services are invoiced and paid for electronically, the method comprising the steps of:

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processing, via the personal computer, an order data transfer via a switching office; interrupting, at least briefly, access to the Internet starting from the switching office after confirmation of the order; and establish a menu-prompting billing access to the switching office of ~~the~~^a telephone network operator in order to register, with respect to billing, the order within a respective terminal-related telephone account file via ~~customary~~ processing of the services for use of the telephone network.

10. (Previously presented) A method for electronically processing purchasing and sales transactions as claimed in Claim 9, the method further comprising the steps of:

running a PIN-inputting and PIN-checking mode before the order data and billing data are registered in the telephone account file.

11. (Previously presented) A method for electronically processing purchasing and sales transactions as claimed in Claim 9, the method further comprising the steps of:

storing the order data and the billing data in a separate memory area of the telephone account file.

12. (Previously presented) A method for electronically processing purchasing and sales transactions as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the order data and the billing data are stored in coded form.

13. (Previously presented) A method for electronically processing purchasing and sales transactions as claimed in Claim 9, the method further comprising the steps of:

creating a confirmation protocol in an automated fashion from one of the registered order data and the billing data; and

transferring the confirmation protocol to the service provider via the Internet.

14. (Presently amended) A method for electronically processing purchasing and sales transactions as claimed in Claim 9, the method further comprising the steps of:

establishing a data link to ~~the~~ a telephone data-registering computer in the respective switching office after a menu item has been called and authenticated via the personal computer, wherein it is possible to activate the menu even during an on-line state of the personal computer and access the Internet.

15. (Previously presented) A method for electronically processing purchasing and sales transactions as claimed in Claim 9, the method further comprising the steps of:

loading the order data onto the terminal via the Internet;

registering the order data at the service provider;

transmitting the billing data associated with the order, in a separate link, from the terminal memory to the switching office;

registering the billing data at the switching office in a debit file after authenticity checking; and

transferring registration of accounts receivable to the service provider with an identifier as confirmation.

16. (Presently amended) An apparatus for electronically processing purchasing and sales transactions using the Internet, wherein goods and services are invoiced and paid for

electronically, comprising a terminal which is capable of communication and a display, wherein the apparatus is connected to a switching office via a telephone network, the switching office via a telephone network, the switching office setting up access to an Internet access computer via a data line, the switching office having an internode module for transforming incoming telephone data when data is transferred between the Internet access computer and the apparatus into a format which is suitable for display and storage in the terminal and for transforming data records derived from the Internet data transfer into a switching-office format, and wherein the apparatus processes order data transfer via the switching office, access to the Internet starting from the switching office being at least briefly interrupted after confirmation of the order, and a menu-prompted billing access to the switching office of ~~the~~^a telephone network operator is established in order to register, with respect to billing, the order within a respective terminal-related telephone account file via the ~~customary~~ processing of the services for use of the telephone network.